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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic camera comprising:
a signal processing portion for processing an imaged video signal obtained from an imaging element to form image data;
a monitor for displaying said image data;
an electronic flash device;
a battery for supplying voltage to said signal processing portion, said monitor and said electronic flash device;
a battery voltage detector circuit; and
a system controller;
wherein:

said electronic flash device includes a capacitor charged when no light is emitted from the flash device, and a discharge tube which receives an output from capacitor and, in response thereto, emits light; and

said system controller receives an output from said battery voltage detector circuit, determines whether an amount of electric charge remaining in said battery is below a predetermined value, and controls displaying on said monitor and charging of said capacitor such that, when the amount of electric charge remaining in said battery is below said predetermined value, display of the image data and charging of the capacitor are not simultaneously performed and an operation of displaying the image data on the monitor and recording the image data on a recording medium is completed before an operation of charging the capacitor occurs so that the image data will be preserved on the medium should the battery voltage, as a result of the charging operation, decrease below a level at which the camera would record the image, wherein the image data is displayed on the monitor after the image has been recorded but before the capacitor has begun charging such that, through display of the image data, a user is informed that the image data has been recorded on the medium.

1 2. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said
2 system controller also controls displaying on said monitor and
3 charging of said capacitor such that display of the image data
4 and charging of the capacitor are simultaneously performed
5 when the amount of electric charge remaining in said battery
6 is at least equal to said predetermined value.

1 3. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said
2 predetermined value represents half of a full amount of the
3 electric charge stored in said battery.

1 4. The electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein said
2 system controller also controls displaying on said monitor and
3 charging of said capacitor such that display of the image data
4 and charging of the capacitor are simultaneously performed
5 when the amount of electric charge remaining in said battery
6 is at least equal to said predetermined value.

1 5. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said
2 monitor is an LCD monitor.

1 6. The electronic camera according to claim 1, further
2 comprising a digital processing portion for applying a
3 digital-signal processing to a video signal.

1 7. A battery voltage controlling method employed in an
2 electronic camera, comprising the steps of:

3 detecting whether an amount of electric charge remaining
4 in a battery is below a predetermined value; and

5 successively performing displaying on a monitor and
6 charging of a capacitor when said amount of electric charge
7 remaining in said battery is below said predetermined value
8 such that an operation of displaying and recording image data
9 is completed before an operation of charging the capacitor
10 occurs so that the image data will be preserved on the medium
11 should voltage produced by the battery, as a result of the

12 charging operation, decrease below a level at which the camera
13 would record the image, wherein the image data is displayed on
14 the monitor after the image has been recorded but before the
15 capacitor has begun charging such that, through display of the
16 image data, a user is informed that the image data has been
17 recorded on the medium.

1 8. The battery voltage controlling method according to
2 claim 7, further comprising the step of simultaneously
3 performing displaying on said monitor and charging of said
4 capacitor when said amount of electric charge remaining in
5 said battery is at least equal to said predetermined value.

1 9. The battery voltage controlling method according to
2 claim 7, wherein said predetermined value represents half of a
3 full amount of the electric charge stored in said battery.

1 10. The battery voltage controlling method according to
2 claim 9, further comprising the step of simultaneously
3 performing displaying on said monitor and charging of said
4 capacitor when said amount of electric charge remaining in
5 said battery is at least equal to said predetermined value.

1 11. An electronic camera comprising:
2 an operation key;
3 a signal processing portion for processing an imaged
4 video signal obtained from an imaging element to form image
5 data and storing said image data on a recording medium in
6 response to operation of said operation key;
7 a monitor for displaying said image data thereon;
8 an electronic flash device;
9 a battery for supplying voltage to said signal processing
10 portion, said monitor and said electronic flash device;
11 a battery voltage detector circuit connected to said
12 battery; and

13 a system controller connected to said battery voltage
14 detector circuit, said monitor, said signal processing portion
15 and said electronic flash device;

16 wherein:

17 said electronic flash device has a capacitor charged
18 with current supplied from said battery when said electronic
19 flash does not emit a flash of light, and a discharge tube
20 which receives an output from said capacitor and, in response
21 thereto, produces the flash of light; and

22 said system controller receives an output from said
23 battery voltage detector circuit and determines whether a
24 remaining amount of electric charge in the battery is below a
25 predetermined value, and, if the remaining amount of the
26 charge is below the predetermined value, does not permit
27 displaying on said monitor and charging of said capacitor to
28 occur simultaneously, such that the system controller prevents
29 the capacitor from being charged while the monitor is
30 displaying the image data when one screen of the image data is
31 being recorded on the recording medium, and controls the
32 monitor to be inoperative while said capacitor is being
33 charged after one screen of said image data has been
34 completely recorded on the recording medium so that the image
35 data will be preserved on the medium should the battery
36 voltage, as a result of the charging operation, decrease below
37 a level at which the camera would record the image, wherein
38 the image data is displayed on the monitor after the image has
39 been recorded but before the capacitor has begun charging such
40 that, through display of the image data, a user is informed
41 that the image data has been recorded on the medium.

1 12. The electronic camera is claim 11, wherein, after said
2 capacitor has been completely charged, said system controller
3 prohibits the capacitor from being charged and causes the
4 monitor to operate.